

Please reject the NAB's petition 04-160.

XM Radio's traffic and weather services in major cities benefit personal and business travelers, interstate truck drivers, and XM subscribers who live in those cities. For example, I will be using the services next week, before I leave the Cincinnati area to drive to Chicago. I want to know what the weather will be, and if there are road closings or conditions that I should know about.

Although it's possible to pick up some Chicago AM radio stations here (300 miles away), it too often is a strain. The reception is unreliable. With XM, the signal is clear--all the time. XM delivers the way AM and FM cannot, and listeners benefit

Traffic and weather reports on Chicago's radio stations are good, but XM's are better, because they are more informative and they are on demand, 24/7. On-demand traffic and weather reports make sense for a listener. The most efficient way to take advantage of these reports is to access them only when needed, on separate channels. With AM and FM stations, a listener either wastes time by hearing the reports too many times or is unable to get them at the needed moment. XM again delivers the way AM and FM cannot.

Satellite radio and broadcast radio will coexist, much like satellite/cable TV and network TV have over the years. The possibility that local radio emergency services will be threatened has little foundation.

Each side of radio--satellite and broadcast--has its followers. Some like AM and FM being free; others dislike the irritating commercial overload that breaks the flow on music stations. By being competitive, through new technology and services, satellite and broadcast radio benefit their listeners, which is the way it should be.

I urge you to let the listeners benefit from a competitive marketplace. Reject the NAB's petition 04-160.